

Recommendations and Problems

Monthly Reports for September 1959

MAP LIBRARY DIVISION

Owing to vacations, two resignations, and assistance rendered by Processing Branch personnel to other branches in the Map Library, the Processing Branch has been operating with a reduced staff. While there has been no insurmountable problem, lack of personnel on a continuing basis will result in an accumulation of a backlog of uncataloged materials.

Two Map Library employees will be hospitalized in October for scheduled operations.

CARTOGRAPHY DIVISION

USSR-Satellites Compilation Branch

DD/P Urban Program

When this program was first set up it was agreed to concentrate on a basic planimetric map both in M Bldg and Bldg. 11, leaving the more complete version to the indeterminate future. This summer the Branch accepted a priority request from DDP for a fully annotated plan of Tuapse, a town not on the original DDP list. Last month another priority request was received from DDP, this time for revision of [REDACTED] an outline town plan completed almost two years ago for [REDACTED]. Despite the incompleteness of and the many errors in this map enough responsive reporting has been returned from the field to warrant complete revision, including the addition of annotated substantive data. 25X1X43-

By this time, it is becoming apparent that at least part of the urban program needs recasting. It seems clear that the second, more substantive phase of the program will continue to be required only on a specific current-priority basis. Such requests dictate that we play each one by ear as received and because of time limitations that any predetermined standard procedures and/or specifications cannot be followed. 25X1X4

Responsive field reporting generated by the Division's increased support to [REDACTED] seems to be increasing. The Branch considers the maintenance of such maps as have been produced of the highest priority, not only to get this reported information to the intelligence community as quickly as possible but also to make available to the field collectors the most up-to-date maps possible. At the moment it appears that the one body assigned to the program in Bldg. 11 cannot keep up maintenance on Moscow and Leningrad, for instance, and still produce both new maps and respond effectively to the anticipated priority requirements for other revisions.

Development and Construction Branch

The Division should contact OTR in order to investigate the possibilities of training interrogators in the use of the so-called 'Brugab' plotting chart.

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The Europe Branch reports that the deployment aspect of guided missile intelligence for the Satellites is a grey area in which everyone is floundering, due partly to the fact everyone involved is interested in deployment for his own particular purposes. Up to now, the Satellites have had a secondary place in guided missile intelligence collection; they are now becoming more important as potential sites, and it is believed the Europe Branch can make a contribution of value in this effort. Discussions were initiated with Chief, I/GM, about our furnishing them with locational data and geographic evaluations of reported sites.

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At the request of DD/I, the Watch Officer called [REDACTED] at 0730 on 17 September and was directed to a particular file for a report on Algeria to be used in briefing the DCI prior to an NSC meeting that morning. The Watch Officer took the wrong report although the correct one was available. Perhaps the episode points to the wisdom of placing on file in the DD/I office a tabulation of D/GG production.

During the month, GG/F became aware of the existence of three specific Army-produced issuances of geographic intelligence interest that had not been disseminated to them. Two of these were transport and logistics studies of routes in Southeast China and Southeast Asia, while the third was a study of airfields and landing sites in selected Asiatic countries. In at least two of the three cases, CIA was not included on the original distribution list. Some corrective action seems essential.

Editing and Review Staff

Planning for the integration of GG/R into St/P continues. Procedures for St/P review of high-priority rush jobs have not yet been worked out satisfactorily. Also, geographic editing is apparently more varied and inclusive than that for the Economic Area, and the work does not always fit into the neat pigeonholes that have been set up. If the miscellaneous editing performed by the geography editors were omitted from St/P reports, they would not give true pictures of the actual production of D/GG or of St/P.

Far East/Pacific Branch

Review of Regulation RI-130, revised 6 August 1959, and dealing with organization, mission, and functions of OBI, still leaves a question in our minds concerning the definition of "basic intelligence" and points to the possibility of future confusion between "basic intelligence" and "geographic intelligence", in view of the wording of the regulation. Although it is not a problem at present, it is not beyond the realm of possibility that it might become such in the future. A clarification of the two terms now might help to forestall such an occurrence.

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